

Spring 2-28-1986

## Il Musico (1986)

San Jose State University, Theatre Arts

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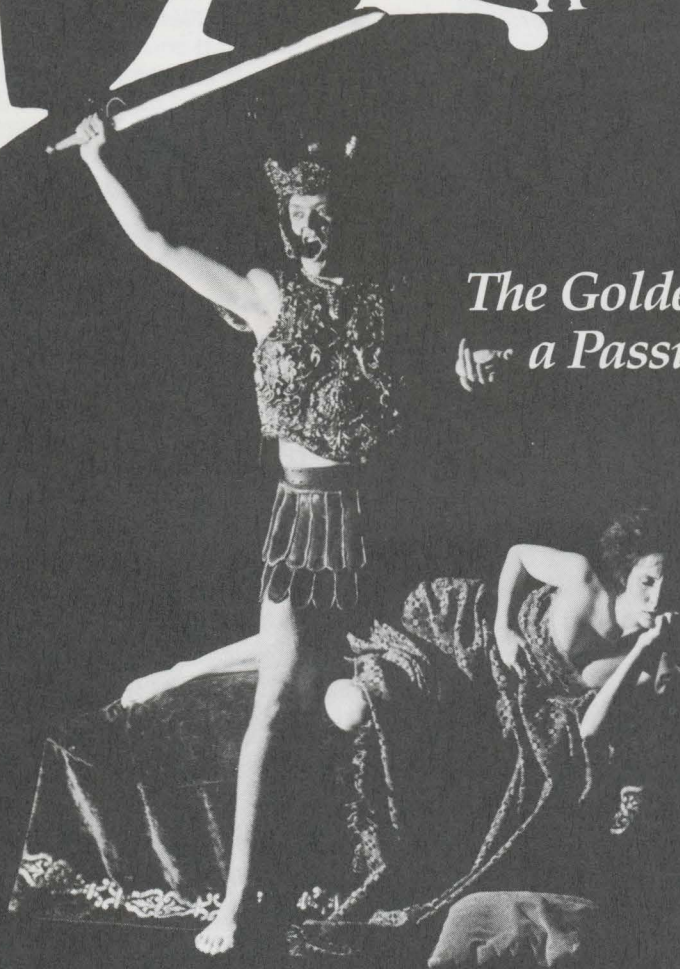
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# IAN STRASFOGEL'S *IL MUSICO* WORLD PREMIERE

*The Golden Voice of  
a Passionate Age*



SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE  
FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 8 P.M.



# Evviva il Coltello! Long Live the Knife!

*Frenzied audiences screamed their adoration of the great castrati singers, the superstars of eighteenth century opera.*

*IL MUSICO* is set in the late 1700's after it was found that castration of talented boy singers encouraged the formation of a male soprano voice of unparalleled strength and purity. A seventeenth century papal edict against women performers on Roman stages led a growing number of Italian opera houses to engage castrati for women's roles. Gradually their haunting timbre became a continental craze and castrati dominated eighteenth century opera, not only in travesty roles but also as lovers, heroes and rulers. *IL MUSICO* is a fantasy about a great castrato soprano; his life, his loves and his music. It is the story of Lorenzo Arrighi. Nature's glory. Mankind's misfit. The golden voice of a passionate age.

We welcome you to the world premiere of *IL MUSICO*. The playwright, Ian Strasfogel, is considered one of today's most exciting Opera Stage Directors and he brings this same excitement to his writing. Mr. Strasfogel is the 1985 winner of the HAROLD C. CRAIN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PLAYWRITING for this compelling drama. *IL MUSICO* was written out of compassion for the thousands of men whose lives were irrevocably changed and is filled with all of the beauty, passion and insight that only someone who truly knows opera could relate. We thank you for attending and for sharing with us this experience in live theatre.

**IAN STRASFOGEL** (*PLAY-WRIGHT*) is also an Opera Director, Producer and Educator. The New York born son of the Metropolitan Opera Conductor Ignace Strasfogel, his definitive stagings have won him international acclaim. In 1985-86 he staged three productions of *FAUST* with the companies of Calgary, Knoxville and Charlotte that resulted in headlines like, "STUNNING *FAUST* MAKES NIGHT AT THE OPERA SPECIAL." Strasfogel most recently returned from planning sessions for his production of Hans Werner Henze's *THE ENGLISH CAT* for Frankfurt's Alte Oper to join the cast and crew of *IL MUSICO* during the final week of rehearsals and for the opening night.



## IL MUSICO

**ROBERT JENKINS** (*DIRECTOR*) has acted and directed with such groups as the Performing Arts Foundation of New York, the Gallivanting Inspiration Group, the California Actors Theatre, Children's Theatre Workshop, and The San Jose Stage Company. His directing projects include *CABARET*, *EQUUS*, *WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?*, and *THE MOUND BUILDER*. As an actor Jenkins has performed major Shakespearean roles as well as numerous roles ranging from Sophoclean Tragedy to Pinter Absurdism. He is also known as the *CAROLINA TRAVELER* during his national tours as a professional storyteller. He received his Ph.D. from Florida State University and has been on the faculty at SJSU since 1975. Jenkins now holds the position of Director of Theatre.





World Premiere

# IL MUSICO

*The Servant of Art*

WRITTEN BY IAN STRASFOGEL

DIRECTED BY ROBERT JENKINS

## CAST

*In order of appearance*

OLD LORENZO ARRIGHI . . . . . THOMAS GRADY  
YOUNG LORENZO ARRIGHI . . . . . JOSH BIRENBAUM  
PADRE PACIFICO . . . . . DAVID MICHAEL SWEET  
FATHER OF LORENZO . . . . . GREGORY S. REHRIG  
MARTUCCI . . . . . JERRY McALLISTER  
HEAVY MAN . . . . . RAMON SANCHEZ  
BARBER . . . . . GRAEME FINLAYSON  
GIORGIO . . . . . COLIN MacDOUGALL  
LORENZO ARRIGHI . . . . . KURT MEEKER  
STUDENT . . . . . RAMON SANCHEZ  
CAPPELLINI . . . . . ROB LANGEDER  
KING . . . . . GRAEME FINLAYSON  
CONSTABLES . . . . . RAMON SANCHEZ,  
DAVID MICHAEL SWEET  
AMBASSADOR . . . . . LEN HARRIS  
BELLINO . . . . . MO OCKELOEN  
MAGNELLI . . . . . ROB LANGEDER  
MARIO . . . . . ROB LANGEDER  
ANGELA . . . . . PENELOPE ISSICHOPOULOS  
ROVESCALLI . . . . . LEN HARRIS

SCENIC DESIGN  
RICHARD ARNOLD, JR.  
COSTUME AND MAKEUP DESIGN  
KATHERINE IRVINE

*In partial fulfillment of requirement for  
MASTER OF FINE ARTS, SCENOGRAPHY*

LIGHTING DESIGN  
KENNETH DORST  
SOUND DESIGN  
ALLEN STRANGE

## MUSIC

Vivaldi . . . . . *Orlando Furioso*  
Monteverdi . . . . . *Coronation of Poppea*  
Caccini . . . . . *Amarili Mia Bella*  
Domenico Scarlatti . . . . . *D Minor Prestissimo*  
*D Minor Andante*  
Performed by Judith Norell  
Mozart . . . . . *Mi Lagnero Tacendo*  
Montserrat . . . . . *Descendit de Caelis*  
Handel . . . . . *Or La Tromba*  
Haydn . . . . . *Orlando Paladino*



## IL MUSICO PRODUCTION STAFF

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR ..... JAMES R. EARLE, JR.  
 ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ..... KATHLEEN EADS  
 STAGE MANAGER ..... KATHLEEN EADS  
 ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS ..... KELLY McALLISTER,  
 BRENDAN RAGOTZY  
 SCENERY CONSTRUCTION CREW . RICHARD ARNOLD, ROY HARLINE,  
 JANICE PAXSON, JON SELOVER, STUDENTS OF DRAMA 52  
 STAGE CREWHEADS .... DIANA GOLDSMITH, BRENDAN RAGOTZY  
 PROPERTY CREWHEADS ..... PETER BEDARD, KELSEY HARDING  
 LIGHTING CREW ..... DAVID HEREFORD, AARON BARRETT  
 FOLLOW SPOTS ..... STEVE ALDEN, DIANE McSWEENEY  
 SOUND TECHNICIAN ..... CATHY MOSER  
 ASSISTANT TO THE COSTUME DESIGNER ..... SHARON RIDGE  
 CUTTER ..... ELIZA CHUGG  
 COSTUME CONSTRUCTION CREW ... KEVIN DUARTE, CHRIS LEWIS,  
 JOANNA PROKOPAKIS, RHONDA ROPER, ANA SANCHEZ,  
 SUELLEN SELLERS  
 COSTUME RUNNING CREWHEAD ..... MAUREEN PHILLIPS  
 COSTUME ASSISTANT CREWHEAD ..... JENNIFER YORK  
 COSTUME RUNNING CREW ..... JENNIE HWANG, JAMES LEE  
 MAKEUP CREWHEAD ..... KATHERINE KEISTER  
 WIGS ..... RHONDA ROPER  
 HAIR STYLIST ..... DONNA FEDERICO  
 SPECIAL PROJECTS 1st ARMOR ..... MAUREEN SMIDEBUSH  
 2nd ARMOR ..... NEIL HUDNER U.C. BERKELEY

## THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT TECHNICAL PRODUCTION STAFF

FACULTY COSTUME DESIGNER ..... ELIZABETH M. POINDEXTER  
 COSTUME TECHNICIAN/COSTUMER ..... ELIZA CHUGG  
 COSTUME ASSISTANTS ..... KATE IRVINE, RHONDA ROPER,  
 MAUREEN SMIDEBUSH  
 COSTUME LOAN COORDINATOR ..... ANN RANDS  
 STAGE TECHNICIAN/MASTER CARPENTER ..... STEVEN PLACKE  
 FACULTY SCENE DESIGNER ..... DONAMARIE REEDS  
 SCENERY ASSISTANTS ..... RICHARD ARNOLD, JON SELOVER,  
 MARCIA TRASK  
 MASTER ELECTRICIAN ..... CHRIS THORNE  
 LIGHTING ASSISTANT ..... CAROL COUCH  
 PROPERTY COORDINATOR ..... CATHY MOSER  
 STUDIO THEATRE TECHNICAL DIRECTOR ..... MATT GORDON

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

DIRECTOR OF THEATRE ..... ROBERT JENKINS  
 PUBLICIST ..... VANITA MOORE  
 GRAPHIC ARTIST ..... STEVEN LEE BURRIGHT  
 BOX OFFICE MANAGER ..... JAMES COULTER  
 PHOTOGRAPHER ..... SCOTT BAKER  
 ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY ..... V. RICHARD HARO  
 HOUSE MANAGER ..... JANICE PAXSON

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### Costume Loans:

Barbara Cleveland – Stanford University  
 Petey Johnson – Berkeley Repertory Theatre  
 Ric Austin – Berkeley Shakespeare Festival  
 Karen Mitchell – San Jose Repertory Company  
 Barbara Murray – University of Santa Clara  
 Neil Hudner – University of California, Berkeley

Lynn Moeller – Voice of Young Lorenzo

### Consultants:

Opera San Jose  
 Ivan Van Pere – San Francisco Opera

Special Thanks to Dr. Carla Federici

### KATHERINE IRVINE (COSTUME AND MAKEUP DESIGNER)

is currently a Master of Fine Arts, Scenography Candidate, emphasis on Costume Design. IL MUSICO is her thesis design project. Ms. Irvine has designed a myriad of shows including: HOW I GOT THAT STORY and SISTER MARY IGNATIUS..., City Lights Theatre Company; FALLEN ANGELS, Hillbarn Theatre; MACBETH, West Bay Opera; and ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST, Eureka Theatre, co-designed with Eliza Chugg. Ms. Irvine's last production at SJSU was the 1984 Harold C. Crain Award winner, SAINT DEB, for which she won both SJSU Costume and Design awards. Ms. Irvine has her M.A. from SJSU in Design Theory which she completed in London, England, while working and studying with Opera and Film Designer David Fielding.

SJSU THEATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT AND  
 SJSU ASSOCIATED STUDENTS PRESENT

TREAT THE KIDS!



April 12, 2:00 P.M.

# NIGHTINGALE

Performed by **Children's Theatre Workshop**

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